



FEMA

News Release

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FEMA APPROVES \$6 MILLION TO PREVENT FURTHER DAMAGE FROM FLOODING CAUSED BY JUNE 3 LEVEE BREAK

OAKLAND, CALIF. – The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) today approved \$6,000,000 to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for eligible costs incurred in repairing and restoring the levee break that began June 3 in the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta. The levee breach caused flooding of both the Upper and Lower Jones Tracts and threatened the drinking water supply for over 23 million Californians.

The funding will cover the cost of DWR's contract to close the break and prevent further damages relating to tidal flux and wave wash. This included the cost of providing, transporting and placing approximately 164,377 tons of material in and around the levee break.

"FEMA recognizes the threat the levee break posed not only to the surrounding Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta but to the welfare of millions of Californians," said Michael D. Brown, Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Emergency Preparedness and Response. "We strongly support sharing in a state's efforts to save lives and property."

The project to prevent further damage is just one of more than 50 such projects being funded by FEMA through its Public Assistance Program. This funding is made available for reimbursement of disaster-related costs to state and local governments and certain private nonprofit agencies that provide essential services to the community.

FEMA normally provides 75 percent of eligible project costs with the remaining 25 percent coming from local resources.

On March 1, 2003, FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. FEMA's continuing mission within the new department is to lead the effort to prepare the nation for all hazards and effectively manage federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates

proactive mitigation activities, trains first responders, and manages the National Flood Insurance Program and the U.S. Fire Administration.

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